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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/602,699	06/25/2003	Akihiro Taguchi	11-164	8431

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EXAMINER	
GOINS, DAVETTA WOODS	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2632	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/602,699	TAGUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Davetta W. Goins	2632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *5,6 and 15-18* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 7-14* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *6/25/03,6/29/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 5, 6, and 15-18 are allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4 and 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okubo (US Pat. 6,737,965 B2).

In reference to claims 1, 9, 11-14, Okubo does not specifically disclose the claimed steps of switching a transmitter into an ID registration mode and switching a receiver into an ID transmission mode, causing the receiver to transmit a collation ID determined based on an ID assigned inherently to the receiver, causing the transmitter to receive the collation ID transmitted from the receiver and store the received collation ID as a registered ID of the transmitter. However, Okubo discloses a commander 6 that works with both the transmitter 3, associated with each tire of the vehicle, as well as the receiver 5 (col. 2, lines 41-56). In order to register ID codes for each of the transmitters 3 in the receiver 5, the commander 6 will transmit a code for each wheel and the transmitter 3 for each tire will receive this assigned code and store the channel code and position into it's RAM 25. The receiver 5 is switched into an ID code

registration mode such that the receiver 5 can store ID codes contained in a signal from the transmitters 3. When receiving the signal from the transmitter 3, the receiver 5 determines whether the channel code contained in the signal matches the channel code that has been "previously" set for the receiver 5 by the setting switch 30 (col. 5, lines 1-67; col. 6, lines 1-10). Since Okubo discloses a means that will transmit an ID code to a transmitter of the vehicle, the transmitter storing the code, and a receiver that is capable of verifying whether the ID code has been assigned inherently to the receiver, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to make the commander 6 integral (In re Larson, 340 F.2d 965, 968, 144 USPQ 347, 349 (CCPA 1965)) with the receiving device, such that the commander and receiver work together to provide a collation ID to each of the tires and ensure that each of the tires have been properly assigned a recognizable ID code by the receiver.

In reference to claims 2, 3, Okubo discloses a) the claimed transmitter for transmitting information, which is met by transmitter 3 for transmitting data pertaining to the measured temperature and/or pressure of the corresponding tire 2 (col. 4, lines 16-24), b) the claimed receiver for receiving the information transmitted from the transmitter, which is met by receiver 5 for receiving air pressure or temperature data from the transmitters 3 and (col. 4, lines 24-57), c) the claimed control apparatus for checking an ID contained in the information received by the receiver and performing predetermined processing designated by the information based on a checked result of the ID, which is met by the receiver 5 including a control circuit 33 and memory 34 where ID codes are stored for further registering of ID codes and further displaying the pressure data contained in the received signal to the display unit 35 (col. 4, lines 47-57; col.

5, lines 12-63), d) transmitter comprising an ID receiving apparatus for receiving the collation ID and an ID registration apparatus for storing the collation ID received by the ID receiving apparatus as a registered ID of the transmitter, which is met by transmitter 3 receiving a transmission command signal temporarily storing the channel code and the position code contained in the received signal in the RAM 25. Okubo does not specifically disclose the claimed transmitter mode switching apparatus for switching the transmitter into an ID registration mode; the claimed receiver mode switching apparatus for switching the receiver into an ID transmission mode, or the claimed receiver comprising an ID transmitting apparatus for transmitting a collation ID being determined based on an ID assigned inherently to the receiver and used in ID checking when the receiver is switched into the ID transmission mode by the receiver mode switching apparatus, the transmitter is switched into the ID registration mode by the transmitter mode switching apparatus. However, Okubo does disclose a commander 6 that works with both the transmitter 3, associated with each tire of the vehicle, as well as the receiver 5 (col. 2, lines 41-56). In order to register ID codes for each of the transmitters 3 in the receiver 5, the commander 6 will transmit a code for each wheel and the transmitter 3 for each tire will receive this assigned code and store the channel code and position into it's RAM 25. The receiver 5 is switched into an ID code registration mode such that the receiver 5 can store ID codes contained in a signal from the transmitters 3. When receiving the signal from the transmitter 3, the receiver 5 determines whether the channel code contained in the signal matches the channel code that has been "previously" set for the receiver 5 by the setting switch 30 (col. 5, lines 1-67; col. 6, lines 1-10). Since Okubo discloses a means that will transmit an ID code to a transmitter of the vehicle, the transmitter storing the code, and a receiver that is capable of

verifying whether the ID code has been assigned inherently to the receiver, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to make the commander 6 integral (In re Larson, 340 F.2d 965, 968, 144 USPQ 347, 349 (CCPA 1965)) with the receiving device, such that the commander and receiver work together to provide a collation ID to each of the tires and ensure that each of the tires have been properly assigned a recognizable ID code by the receiver.

In reference to claim 4, Okubo discloses the claimed collation ID is transmitted to the transmitted to the transmitter via a transmitter antenna provided in a tire of the house of the vehicle, which is met by the transmitter 3, including a transmitter antenna 27 as well as a reception antenna 22, each transmitter associated with each of the vehicle tires 2 (col. 4, lines 16-60; Figure 4).

In reference to claims 7, Okubo discloses the claimed collation ID is determined based on an ID assigned inherently to the receiver, which is met by the ID codes are previously set for the receiver before receiving the ID code can be verified when receiving a transmitted signal from the transmitter 3 (col. 5, lines 12-63).

In reference to claims 8, Okubo discloses the claimed collation ID is transmitted to the transmitter via a predetermined external device, which is met by commander 6 (col.5, lines 12-25).

In reference to claim 10, Okubo discloses the claimed transmitter mode switching apparatus is provided in the transmitter which the receiver mode switching apparatus is provided in the receiver and the external device comprising a trigger signal transmitting apparatus which transmits a trigger signal for causing the receiver mode switching apparatus to switch the receiver into the ID transmission mode, which is met by the setting switch 30 of the receiver 5 is manipulated to set the same channel code as that of the commander 6 for the receiver 5 and allows the receiver 5 to operate in the ID code registration mode as well as for the transmitters 3 to periodically perform forced transmission mode (col. 3, lines 41-67; col. 4, lines 1-65).

4. The prior art of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure as follows.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Davetta W. Goins whose telephone number is 571-272-2957. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri with every other Fri. off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu can be reached on 571-272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DAVETTA W. GOINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Davetta W. Goins

D.W.G.
September 29, 2004

Davetta W. Goins
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2632